

enormous Height were
 our Sins arrived, ere
 thou didst begin to visit
 them! and when thou
 couldest no longer for-
 bear, yet mastering thy
 Power, thou hast not
 proportioned thy Ven-
 geance to our Crimes,
 but to thy own gracious
 Design of reducing and
 reclaiming us. Lord,
 had the first Stroke of
 thy Hand been extermi-
 nating, our Guilt had
 justified the Method;
 but thou hast proceeded
 by such easy and gentle
 degrees, as witness how
 much

much thou desiredst to
 be interrupted and shew
 us that all that sad
 Weight we have long
 groaned under, hath
 been accumulated, only
 by our own Incorrige-
 bleness. It is now, O
 Lord, these many Years
 that this Nation hath
 been in the Furnace, and
 yet our Dross wastes not
 but increases; and it is
 owing only to thy un-
 speakable Mercy, that
 we who would not be
 purified are not con-
 sumed; that we remain
 a Nation, who cease not
 to